

# “Making Sense of America” DAY I — 2 July 2026

University of New Orleans Saal / Room 1119

1<sup>st</sup> Floor – University Main Building / Universitätshauptgebäude

Innrain 52, 6020 Innsbruck

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10:15 – 10:30 | Arrival

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10:30 – 10:45 | **Opening Remarks** – Philipp Leonhardt & Mahshid Mayar

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10:45 – 12:00 | **KEYNOTE** – chair: Mahshid Mayar

Erica Fretwell [ SUNY – Albany ]

*Sentimentalism and the Distribution of the Insensible*

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12:00 – 13:15 | **Lunch** (self-paid)

13:15 – 13:30 | “Erasing ██████s – Splintering Archives” – **Art Installation Opening**

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13:30 – 15:00 | **PANEL I** — **Buccal – Archival – Authentic** – chair: Julia Faisst

Andrin Albrecht [ Jena ] & Hannah Schoch [ independent scholar ]

*The Privacy of the Mouth*

Devon Anderson [ Innsbruck ]

*Sensing Across Time: Recognition and Relation in the Queer Archives*

Tamara Dima Imboden [ Basel ]

*“Avoiding My Mother’s Kitchen”: Cultural Authenticity in Yaa Gyasi’s  
Transcendent Kingdom*

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15:00 – 15:30 | **Coffee + Tea**

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15:30 – 17:00 | PANEL II — **(Eco)Feminism – Body – Collage** – chair: Cornelia Klecker

Johanna Pitetti-Heil [Cologne]

*“Becoming-Body” as “Worlding” in Forcetimespace*

Carmen Dextl [Regensburg]

*Touching the American Landscape: Ecofeminist Sensory Experience in Anna Halprin’s Returning Home*

Sandra Tausel [Innsbruck]

*‘Obeying him was easy, ~~not a drudge~~’: Lisa Huffaker’s Collage Erasures*

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17:00 – 17:30 | Coffee + Tea

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17:30 – 18:30 | PANEL III — **Smell as Method** – chair: Michael Fuchs

Tereza Jiroutová Kynčlová [Charles]

*Olfactory Penetration and Gender in Desert Blood*

Hsuan L. Hsu [UC Davis] – [via zoom](#)

*Olfactory Ecologies in the Past Conditional*

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18:30 – 20:00 | (Conference-) Free time

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20:00 | Conference Dinner (self-paid)

*Le Murge* - am Wiltener Platzl, Leopoldstraße 27, 6020 Innsbruck

# “Making Sense of America” DAY II — 3 July 2026

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09:00 – 09:30 | Coffee + Tea

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09:30 – 11:00 | PANEL IV — **Sensing the Screen** – chair: Carmen Dextl

Julia Faisst [ Dortmund ]

*Sense-Scapes of Migrant Childhood in Contemporary US Media*

Christian Quendler [ Innsbruck ]

*Sensation and Validation: The Pop-Cultural Integration of Toxic Masculinity in Film and Television*

Sieglinde Lemke [ Freiburg ]

The Academic Video Essay as Method: Exploring Trickle-Down Ideology and Cultural Affect

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11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee + Tea

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11:30 – 13:00 | PANEL V — **War(s) of Senses** – chair: Matthias Mösch

Giulia Kobza [ Zurich ]

*“The Worst Part Was the Smell”: Memory and the Senses in Tim O’Brien’s The Things They Carried*

Giulio Segato [ Urbino Carlo Bo ]

*“When Trains Make the Dogs Howl”: Yusef Komunyakaa and the Poetics of Soundscape*

Masayoshi Yamada [ UC Santa Cruz ]

*The Cry of Jazz (1959) and the Soundscape of Race and Neighborhood Change in Postwar Chicago*

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13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch (self-paid)

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14:00 – 15:30 | PANEL VI — **Fossilized – Versional – Haptic** — chair: Philipp Leonhardt

Michael Fuchs [ Innsbruck ]

*Making Deep Time American: Fossils and the Transnational Sensory Politics of ‘America’*

Matthias Klestil [ Innsbruck ]

*The Materiality of the Book, Haptics, and Versionality*

Kristin Allukian [ South Florida ] — [via zoom](#)

*Touched by Labor: How it Feels to be a Lowell Factory Girl*

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15:30 – 16:00 | [Group Photo + Departure](#)